

Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting

MAPC Large Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

4:00-6:00 p.m., August 6, 2014

Discussion Highlights & Points of Agreement:

Attendance - Plan Steering Committee:

Stacy Christie, Mitch Coffman, Susan Estes, David Foster, Bryan Frye, Joe Johnson, Ken Lee, John McKay, Cindy Miles, Bill Ramsey, James Roseboro, Gary Schmitt, Debra Miller Stevens,

Attendance - Project Staff:

Stephen Banks, Dave Barber, Scott Knebel, John Schlegel, Scott Wadle

1. Welcome -

The meeting was called to order by Dave Barber. Following introductions, the Committee agreed to continue the practice of audio recording their meetings and posting these recordings to the project webpage.

2. Nominations and Election of New Committee Chair and Vice-Chair -

Following a call for nominations for Committee Chair, it was unanimously agreed by Committee members that Susan Estes and Cindy Miles would jointly serve as Committee Co-Chairs.

3. Two Major Community Engagement Feedback ‘Takeaways’ for Developing the Plan from Committee Members Absent from the July 23 Committee Meeting-

Ken Lee, Bill Ramsey, Gary Schmitt, Bryan Frye and Susan Estes provided their two most important “takeaways” from the community engagement feedback received over the last three months, as the Committee now begins the process of determining the key elements of 2035 vision statement for the new plan. Their responses were recorded on a flip chart and will be added to the current list of Committee member responses (included as part of the July 23rd meeting summary notes).

4. Review Proposed Community Investments Plan Format, Work Program and Proposed Staff / Committee Working Relationship -

Committee members reviewed a proposed Community Investments Plan format developed by staff. Following extensive discussion, the Committee endorsed the plan format in general but recommended to staff that this format, especially the Plan Elements section, needs to be flexible and adaptable as we move through the plan development process. The need to separate out recreation as a separate plan element was debated, as was the need to include possible elements on community aesthetics/design, telecommunications and connectivity. The Committee agreed that that Plan needs to provide general policy guidance rather than getting bogged down in a listing of projects/costs within each of the Plan elements.

The Committee also reviewed and endorsed the proposed plan development work program developed by staff through the end of 2014.

5. Continued Discussion of 2035 Population and Employment Growth Rates (Base & Accelerated) for Plan Development Purposes -

Recognizing that it takes time to build momentum in accelerating future job creation and advanced manufacturing diversification, the Committee decided upon a high-end overall population and employment growth rate of 1.25% to represent the plausible upper end of a growth rate range that also contains a baseline population and employment growth rate of 0.7% (0.683%). This high-end growth rate represents an additional 36,375 jobs and 20,071 people for Wichita’s growth above the Wichita baseline growth rate (65,083 people and 31,200 jobs). Plan policies will need to be established so as to increase the likelihood of this high-end growth rate becoming a reality.

6. Committee Exercise: Development of Preliminary Vision Statement and Guiding Policy Principles -

Staff took Committee members through an interactive brainstorming process of identifying key words and phrase that will be used to develop the Plan Vision Statement. Staff will provide Committee members with a copy of these key words and phrases for their reference as they develop proposed guiding policy principles for discussion at the next Committee meeting on August 20th. Staff will forward copies of the recent City of Cincinnati vision statement and guiding policy principles for illustrative purposes only.

7. Comments from Public Attendees -

Today's meeting was very productive

8. Adjourned - 5:50 p.m.

Plan Steering Committee Members:
Major Takeaways from Feedback Received from the April-June Community Engagement Initiatives

(Updated on August 6, 2014)

Listed below are each Steering Committee member's top two 'takeaways' from the community engagement feedback received from the open house meetings (April 2014) and the community discussion meeting (May-June 2014):

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*Randy Oliver*)
- Maintain our existing infrastructure (*Randy Oliver*)

- Center the plan around people and neighborhoods (*David Foster*)
- Quality of life should be carefully considered in the plan (*David Foster*)

- Focus on the urban core rather than expanding at the edges (*Debra Miller Stevens*)
- Enrich what we currently have (*Debra Miller Stevens*)

- Plan needs to address the gap in funding in order to maintain our existing infrastructure (*Joe Johnson*)
- Focus growth within the urban core and downtown (*Joe Johnson*)

- Top priority in the plan needs to be maintenance of existing infrastructure (*Mitch Coffman*)
- Focus on quality of life - enhancing what we have (*Mitch Coffman*)

- Expanding infrastructure compounds the difficulty we have of maintaining our existing infrastructure (*Cindy Miles*)
- Quality of life is a priority for young generations of our community (*Cindy Miles*)

- Connectivity and walkability is key to creating vibrant neighborhoods - expanding public transit needs to be a priority (*Stacy Christie*)
- Focus on getting the best bang for the investment buck - priorities should be given to multi-purpose and multiple impact investments (*Stacy Christie*)

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*James Roseboro*)
- Take care of the urban core area before expanding our community at the edges - sustain what we have (*James Roseboro*)

- Need to invest in the downtown, the urban core and suburban expansion if we are to be successful as a community (*John McKay*)
- Need to maintain a high quality of life, amenities and basic services in our community (*John McKay*)

- It is critical to take care of what we currently have (*Kurt Yowell*)
- Maintaining low congestion and crime is a priority (*Kurt Yowell*)

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*Ken Lee*)
- Quality of life needs to be carefully considered (*Ken Lee*)

- Maintain our existing infrastructure (*Bill Ramsey*)
- Local streets and aging water and sewer lines need to be a priority (*Bill Ramsey*)

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*Gary Schmitt*)
- Job growth is critical for our community's future (*Gary Schmitt*)

- We need to take care of what we have (*Bryan Frye*)
- Quality of life is important to our community's future, especially recreations opportunities and youth activities *Bryan Frye*)
- Community engagement feedback received is helpful but needs to be put in perspective given the limited participation rates (*Susan Estes*)
- Quality of life and long-term water supply are important to our community's future (*Susan Estes*)

**Plan Steering Committee Members -
Brainstorming Key Words and Phrases for Developing a Vision Statement**
(August 6, 2014)

- High-tech community
- Integrated transportation system
- A community with a high degree of connectivity
- A community that respects individual freedoms and property rights
- Leading edge technology
- A safe community
- A sustainable community in every aspect
- We take care of and maintain what we have (2)
- Densification
- An apolitical community
- Our neighborhoods are key community building elements
- A culturally-minded community
- A unified and inclusive community
- Regional center for culture, arts and recreation
- Youth
- Encourage and facilitate entrepreneurship and innovation
- Flexible, adaptable and diversified
- Attractive community
- High quality of life
- Culturally diverse and accepting of all
- Abundant jobs and employment opportunities
- Modernized/enhanced community infrastructure
- Growth oriented, development-friendly

- Embraces and supports free market concepts
- Pragmatic
- Affordability
- A 'can-do' spirit / a place of excellence
- Well-connected neighborhoods and community
- Place of the next big idea
- Major regional center/draw
- Inclusive and growth-focused
- Active and vibrant
- Social connectivity
- Advanced technology and infrastructure
- Corporate headquarters
- Proud of who we are / be ourselves / Kansas pride
- Equal opportunity for all
- Green
- Incubator for developing businesses
- 'Common-sense' regulatory environment
- Regionalism
- Expanded transportation services / options
- Expertise from within
- Fiscally responsible
- Improved, diversified business infrastructure
- Strong historical heritage and foundation